REMARKS

1. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Examiner's comments during a telephone conversation on 12 February 2003 which have greatly assisted Applicant.
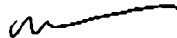
Applicant has canceled Claims 19, 58, and 97 and amended Claims 18, 20, 22, 28, 33, 37-38, 57, 59, 61, 67, 72, 76-77, 96, 98, 100, 106, 111, and 115-116. It should be noted that Applicant has elected to amend said Claims solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals, 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (9/8/00). In making this amendment, Applicant has not and does not in any way narrow the scope of protection to which Applicant considers the invention herein to be entitled and does not concede, in any way, that the subject matter of such Claims was in fact taught or disclosed by the cited prior art. Rather, Applicant reserves Applicant's right to pursue such protection at a later point in time and merely seeks to pursue protection for the subject matter presented in this submission.

Claims 1, 18, 40, 57, 79, and 96 are in allowable condition. Claims 2-17 and 20-39 and 41-56, and 59-78, and 80-95, and 98-117 are dependent upon Claims 1, 18, 40, 57, 79, and 96, respectively.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicant considers the present invention to be distinguished from the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits that the Examiner forward a Notice of Allowance to the Applicant, and the present application is therefore allowed to issue as a United States patent.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In The Claims

Please cancel Claims 19, 58, and 97 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 18, 20, 22, 28, 33, 37-38, 57, 59, 61, 67, 72, 76-77, 96, 98, 100, 106, 111, and 115-116 as follows (Marked copy):

18.   (amended)   A process for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising the steps of:

    providing a program guide area;

    wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

    receiving user command input;

    displaying a first column in said program guide area;

    said first column displays channel sorting methods available to the user;

    displaying a second column in said program guide area;

    said second column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list; [and]

    wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list[.] ;

    displaying a third column in said program guide area;

    said third column displays a program list for a specific channel; and

    wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.

20.   (amended)   The process of claim [19] 18, wherein two columns are displayed at a time.

22.   (amended)   The process of claims 18 [or 19], further comprising the step of:

    highlighting an element in a column; and

    said highlight step is responsive to a user's commands.

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28.　(amended)　The process of claims 18 [or 19], further comprising the step of:
displaying a start time above said second column; and
wherein said start time is modifiable by the user.

33.　(amended)　The process of claim [19] 18, further comprising the step of:
displaying the channel number and ID above said third column; and
wherein said channel number and ID are modifiable by the user.

37.　(amended)　The process of claim [19] 18, wherein said program list lists the start time of each program next to the program name, said program list is in descending order from the most recent time to the latest time.

38.　(amended)　The process of claim [19] 18, wherein said program list lists the start time of each program next to the program name and continues the intermediate time intervals by listing each half, quarter hour, or selectable intervals, and wherein the duration of each program is displayed using an indicator extending from the program start time down to the program end time.

57.　(amended)　An apparatus for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising:
a program guide area;
wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;
a module for receiving user command·input;
a module for displaying a first column in said program guide area;
said first column displays channel sorting methods available to the user;
a module for displaying a second column in said program guide area;

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said second column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list; [and]

wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list[.] :
<u>a module for displaying a third column in said program guide area;</u>
<u>said third column displays a program list for a specific channel; and</u>
<u>wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.</u>

59. (amended) The apparatus of claim [58] <u>57</u>, wherein two columns are displayed at a time.

61. (amended) The apparatus of claims 57 [or 58], further comprising:
a module for highlighting an element in a column; and
said highlight module is responsive to a user's commands.

67. (amended) The apparatus of claims 57 [or 58], further comprising:
a module for displaying a start time above said second column; and
wherein said start time is modifiable by the user.

72. (amended) The apparatus of claim [58] <u>57</u>, further comprising:
a module for displaying the channel number and ID above said third column; and

wherein said channel number and ID are modifiable by the user.

76. (amended) The apparatus of claim [58] <u>57</u>, wherein said program list lists the start time of each program next to the program name, said program list is in descending order from the most recent time to the latest time.

77. (amended) The apparatus of claim [58] <u>57</u>, wherein said program list lists the start time of each program next to the program name and continues the intermediate time intervals by listing each half, quarter hour, or selectable intervals, and wherein the duration of each program is displayed using an indicator extending from the program start time down to the program end time.

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96.   (amended) A program storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for presenting interactive program guide information to a user, comprising the steps of:

   providing a program guide area;

   wherein said program guide area is semi-transparent and overlays a broadcast program that the user is currently watching, allowing the user to see the progress of the broadcast program;

   receiving user command input;

   displaying a first column in said program guide area;

   said first column displays channel sorting methods available to the user;

   displaying a second column in said program guide area;

   said second column displays available program channels in a rotating endless channel list; [and]

   wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said channel list[.] :

   displaying a third column in said program guide area;

   said third column displays a program list for a specific channel; and

   wherein the user scrolls or pages up or down said program list.

98.   (amended) The method of claim [97] 96, wherein two columns are displayed at a time.

100.   (amended) The method of claims 96 [or 97], further comprising the step of:

   highlighting an element in a column; and

   said highlight step is responsive to a user's commands.

106.   (amended) The method of claims 96 [or 97], further comprising the step of:

   displaying a start time above said second column; and

   wherein said start time is modifiable by the user.

111.   (amended) The method of claim [97] 96, further comprising the step of:

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displaying the channel number and ID above said third column; and
wherein said channel number and ID are modifiable by the user.

115. (amended) The method of claim [97] 96, wherein said program list lists the start time of each program next to the program name, said program list is in descending order from the most recent time to the latest time.

116. (amended) The method of claim [97] 96, wherein said program list lists the start time of each program next to the program name and continues the intermediate time intervals by listing each half, quarter hour, or selectable intervals, and wherein the duration of each program is displayed using an indicator extending from the program start time down to the program end time.

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